

App. No. 09/503,215
Amendment dated March 22, 2005
Reply to final Office action of December 22, 2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-26, 28-33, 36 and 41-47 were pending in the application before submission of this paper. The Office Action mailed on June 15, 2004 rejected Claims 1-26, 28-33, 36 and 41-47 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Claims 1, 15, 16, 21, 23, 28-32, 36, 41, and 42 have been amended. Claims 2, 27, 33-35, 37-40, and 45-47 are cancelled. No new matter has been added to the application. Claims 1, 3-26, 28-32, 36, and 41-44 are currently pending. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the pending claims in view of the following remarks.

Claims 1-20, 28-33, 36, and 41-47 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Fortin* (U.S. Patent No. 5,528,753) in view of *Kaufer* (U.S. Patent No. 5,812,828). Claims 21-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Fortin* in view of *Kaufer*, and further in view of *Peek* (U.S. Patent No. 5,481,706). Applicants respectfully disagree.

The Office Action rejected independent Claim 1 by citing a procedure described in *Fortin* for monitoring a routine. Claim 1, as amended, teaches "modifying an executable file to invoke a user-supplied function in place of an original function, the user-supplied function enabling fault simulation code to control execution of the original function; storing the address and the name of the original function in a function lookup table; mapping the name of the executable file to the address of the function lookup table; storing the name of the executable file, the address of the executable file and the address of the function lookup table in a master lookup table; retrieving the address of the function lookup table and the address of the executable file from the master lookup table; locating the function lookup table in the executable file using the address of the executable file; retrieving the address of the original function from the function lookup table using the name of the original function; and invoking the original function using the address of the original function." The method taught by Claim 1 is significantly different from the procedure in *Fortin* cited by the Office Action.

The procedure in *Fortin* is directed to the sequential execution of a target routine, an entry routine, and an exit routine when the target routine is called such that the entry and exit routines collect information about the target routine. Neither *Fortin*, *Kaufer*, *Peek* nor any combination thereof disclose anything about "modifying an executable file to invoke a user-

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supplied function in place of an original function, the user-supplied function enabling fault simulation code to control execution of the original function; storing the address and the name of the original function in a function lookup table; mapping the name of the executable file to the address of the function lookup table; storing the name of the executable file, the address of the executable file and the address of the function lookup table in a master lookup table; retrieving the address of the function lookup table and the address of the executable file from the master lookup table; locating the function lookup table in the executable file using the address of the executable file; retrieving the address of the original function from the function lookup table using the name of the original function; and invoking the original function using the address of the original function," as recited in Applicants' amended Claim 1. Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of Claim 1 is overcome and request that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 15, 21, 23, 28-31, 36 and 41, as amended, include limitations substantially similar (albeit different in other important ways) to the limitations claimed in the currently amended Claim 1. As discussed above, Claim 1 is allowable. Thus, Claims 15, 21, 23, 28-31, 36 and 41 are allowable for at least the same reasons that Claim 1 is allowable, and notice to that effect is solicited. Furthermore, dependent Claims 3-14, 16-20, 22, 24-26, 32, and 42-44 are allowable for at least the same reasons that the base claims on which they rely are allowable, and notice to that effect is solicited.

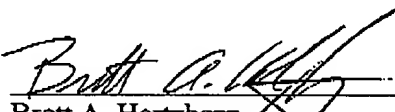
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In view of the foregoing remarks, all pending claims are believed to be allowable and the application is in condition for allowance. Therefore, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any further issues regarding this application, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney for the applicant at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

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